

“(2) making prior authorization (that satisfies the requirements of subsection (d) and that does not violate any requirements of this title that are designed to ensure access to medically necessary prescribed drugs for individuals enrolled in the State program under this title) a condition of not participating in such a similar rebate agreement.”.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the unanimous consent agreement previously entered into, and after having consulted with the Republican leader, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 486, H.R. 5011, the military construction bill, be called before the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5011) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before the Senators start discussing this bill, Senator McCain has asked for 5 minutes in the morning rather than having his 20 minutes now.

I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration of H.R. 5011 on Thursday, there be 15 minutes of debate time with the time divided as follows: 5 minutes each for Senators FEINSTEIN, HUTCHISON, and MCCAIN; that upon the use of that time, without further intervening action or debate, the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, with all other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all after the enacting clause is stricken and the text of S. 2709 is inserted in lieu thereof.

The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my ranking member, Senator HUTCHISON of Texas, to bring the Fiscal Year 2003 Military Construction Appropriations bill to the Senate for consideration. This is a balanced, bipartisan bill intended to meet some of the most pressing infrastructure requirements of our military forces.

This bill provides \$10.6 billion in new budget authority. It represents an increase of less than one tenth of one percent over last year's \$10.5 billion military construction bill. But it is nearly 10 percent more than the President's 2003 budget request.

The 2003 budget request submitted by the President severely underfunded the Guard and Reserves. The request was 52 percent below last year's request. Congress is left to make up the shortfall. As all Members know, the Defense

Emergency Response Fund funded all projects identified by the President as necessary for the war on terror. While it may be tempting to blame the decrease in military construction funding on the costs of fighting a war on terror, the fact is that the war on terror is fully funded through the Defense Emergency Response Fund.

This bill was coordinated carefully with the Armed Services Committee, and each project in this bill is included in the National Defense Authorization Act passed by the Senate. All of the projects in this bill meet the stringent standards for military construction funding set by the Senate. Every project we funded is in the Services' Future Years Defense Plans, and every project is a top priority of the installation commanders.

Mr. President, the bill was unanimously reported out of the Appropriations Committee on June 27. The package before the Senate today includes technical and conforming changes in the bill and report, as authorized by the full Committee. These changes include clarification of report language as needed and, in one instance, a correction in the tables to delete an unauthorized project that was inadvertently included in the committee print.

The bill provides \$5.6 billion—53 percent of the total—for military construction for active and reserve components. Included in this funding is \$1.1 billion for barracks; \$26 million for child development centers; \$137 million for hospital and medical facilities; \$159 million for the Chemical Demilitarization Program; and \$610 million for the Guard and Reserve components.

An additional \$4.23 billion, or 40 percent of the total bill, goes to family housing. This includes \$1.33 billion for new family housing units and improvements to existing units; and \$2.9 billion for operation and maintenance of existing units.

This bill also includes two new military construction initiatives. The first is the Army and Air Force Transformation Initiative, which sets aside funding for the Army and the Air Force to be used for infrastructure requirements.

For the Army, the funding is allocated for construction related to the Interim Brigade Combat Teams. The Interim Brigades, which were just recently renamed Stryker Brigades, are essential to the Army's effort to become a lighter, more mobile, more effective fighting force. Army officials testified before the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee earlier this year that current levels of military construction funding are not adequate to meet the Army's time line for these brigades.

Likewise, the Air Force is in need of additional funding to move forward quickly with the beddown of aircraft associated with its Air Mobility Modernization Program. The Air Force is facing a serious shortfall in airlift capability. The Air Mobility Moderniza-

tion Program, which encompasses the acquisition and upgrading of C-17s, C-5s, and C-130s, is urgently needed.

Simply put, the timetables for Army and Air Force transformation that were in place prior to September 11 are no longer adequate. The war on terror has placed pressing new demands, not only on personnel and equipment, but also on infrastructure. The large increase in defense funding that has occurred since September 11 reflects those demands. Under the transformation initiative, the committee has made \$100 million available each for the Army and Air Force to be used for infrastructure requirements of the Stryker Brigades and C-17 Air Mobility programs, as determined by the Services.

The second major initiative in this bill is the BRAC Environmental Cleanup Acceleration Initiative. This initiative provides an extra \$100 million above the fiscal year 2003 budget request to accelerate the cleanup of dangerous contaminants at military bases that have been closed or realigned as part of the BRAC process. Until the environmental cleanup process is completed, these closed bases are the equivalent of giant white elephants. The services no longer need them, but the communities cannot complete the conversion of them to productive use. In some cases, the lengthy cleanup process presents a problem far worse than just an economic drain on the Services and the communities—in some cases, the contaminants polluting the soil of closed military bases present a serious hazard to human health and the environment.

In my home state of California, for example, plutonium contamination at McClellan Air Force Base continues to present a hazard to the community and to impede progress towards profitable reuse of the property. In Texas, toxic groundwater that has migrated to nearby neighborhoods from the former Kelly Air Force Base has raised fears among residents that the pollution could be causing health problems. These are only two of many examples. The fact is, we have a responsibility to the American people to clean up the buried ordnance and hazardous wastes that contaminate many of our closed or realigned military installations. And I believe that we have a responsibility to act expeditiously. Although the President requested only \$545 million for BRAC environmental cleanup, the Services, at the request of the Committee, identified another \$237 million in environmental cleanup requirements that could be executed in 2003 if funding were made available. We could not provide the full \$237 million needed, but the extra \$100 million we recommended will help to speed the cleanup process. Simple common sense indicates that the military should finish the cleanup from the first four rounds of BRAC before diverting scarce resources and creating additional cleanup costs in another round of base closures.

I want to point out that all the projects added to military construction authorization and appropriations bills that are not part of the President's budget request are carefully screened and vetted by the Services. They are the priorities of the men and women who live and work on military installations throughout the country, and sometimes those priorities differ from the priorities of the Pentagon. Installation commanders are uniquely attuned to the needs of their bases, whereas the budget officers at the Pentagon and the Office of Management and Budget are focused on the corporate needs of the Defense Department as a whole. In some cases, a child care center or a barracks may be essential to the well-being of a base, but may not score high enough at the Pentagon to make it into the President's budget. In other cases, a worthy project may be programmed for funding down the road when it is urgently needed now.

Mr. President, this bill meets many military construction needs—all of the projects are authorized, are in the military's Future Year's Defense Plan, and are the base commander's priority. I urge my colleagues to support it. I would like to thank my ranking member for her support in developing this bill. It is a privilege and a pleasure to work with Senator HUTCHISON. I also thank Chairman BYRD, Senator STEVENS, and Senator INOUE for their guidance and support in developing this package. And I thank the staff of the subcommittee for their dedication and hard work in putting this package together.

I thank my ranking member for her support in developing this bill. I also thank Chairman BYRD, Senator STEVENS, and Senator INOUE for their guidance and support in developing this package.

I also thank the staff, specifically Christina Evans, B.G. Wright, and Matt Miller on the Democratic side, and Sid Ashworth, Alycia Farrell, and Michael Ralsky on the Republican side.

I reserve the remainder of my time and yield to the ranking member, Senator HUTCHISON from Texas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MILLER). The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I thank the Senator from California, the chairman of the committee. We certainly have worked together on this bill, and Senator FEINSTEIN outlined some of the problems we faced in trying to make up for some of the shortfalls in the budget that we had before, particularly in the environmental cleanup and Guard and Reserve accounts.

We have been able to address the major issues for the Department of Defense and also try to stay on the course that we set to improve the quality of life for our military personnel.

In 2001, when President Bush took the oath of office, he made a promise to America that we would see a transformation of our military. He wanted

to take a 25-year look at what our military needs would be, and he appointed Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, who has the most experience of any Secretary of Defense, having been Secretary of Defense before, to do that very job.

After 9/11, of course, our priorities immediately changed because we then became immediately involved in a crisis, a war on terrorism. Now we are prosecuting a war on terrorism at the same time that we still are trying to look to the future needs of our national defense.

Our bill for military construction attempts to address the top priorities of the Department of Defense. It is a balanced bill and is quite bipartisan.

I am particularly pleased to see that we are going to put a large part of this bill, \$1.17 billion, in barracks and dormitories for our military quality of life; \$4.23 billion for family housing. We are asking so much of our military today. Our military personnel on active duty know that they may well be deployed overseas and perhaps on dangerous missions. So we want them to have a quality of life for themselves and for their families that will allow them to serve, knowing that their families will be taken care of in good housing and with good health care. Our part is housing, and we are fully funding the new barracks, dormitories, and family housing.

In recent years, we have made real progress in improving housing for single servicemembers and for families. We are also trying to improve workplaces. We have funding in this bill for the upgrading of the work facilities, the battalion headquarters, and the units where they are working. It is my hope that in future budgets we will see sufficient resources to continue this effort to modernize, renovate, and improve our aging defense facilities and infrastructure.

The effects of sustained inattention by the Department and the military services to basic infrastructure are certainly apparent on nearly every military installation in our country. This will continue to have long-term implications as facilities continue to age disproportionately without sustained investment in maintenance and repair.

This bill also provides \$599 million for the Reserve components, which is a substantial increase over the President's budget request primarily because of the increased use of the Guard and Reserve since September 11. These are important increases that signal a renewed commitment to upgrading and rebuilding the infrastructure that is truly the backbone of our Nation's military, which has so long been neglected.

Guard and Reserve members have stepped up to the plate for our country, even before 9/11, but more so after. These are men and women with full-time civilian jobs. They answer the call when our country asks, and their employers sacrifice, too. We are asking

a lot, and they always come through. That is why we are trying to upgrade the facilities and the equipment they need to do their jobs well.

The bill also addresses several key Department of Defense initiatives. First are the Army and Air Force transformation initiatives. We have provided \$100 million for critical infrastructure needed to support the Army's interim brigade combat teams and \$100 million for the Air Force's aircraft mobility programs.

Senator FEINSTEIN discussed those programs earlier. These programs are essential to ensuring that the Army and Air Force have the infrastructure in place to move forward with the transformation efforts over the next several years. Without this assistance, they would not be able to meet their established milestones.

The committee report also includes a \$100 million increase over the President's budget request for environmental cleanup at military installations that have been closed as a part of the base realignment and closure effort. This additional funding is necessary to enable the military to accelerate the cleanup of dangerous contaminants at closed and realigned bases throughout the Nation.

Senator FEINSTEIN mentioned my home State of Texas where Kelly Air Force Base is one of those that were closed and where there are very significant reported health problems that many believe—and there is evidence to support—are caused by environmental contaminants at that closed base. Certainly California is experiencing similar problems. We are going to try to do what we said we would do for the people in the communities where we have closed bases.

I support this bill. It is exactly what we need to address the infrastructure problems that will support our military and Department of Defense budget.

I thank the chairman of the subcommittee, Senator FEINSTEIN, for her leadership in crafting this bill. She and her staff—Christina Evans and B.G. Wright—have done an excellent job in putting together a bipartisan bill.

I also thank my staff—Sid Ashworth, Alycia Farrell and Michael Ralsky—for their invaluable work on our Committee on Appropriations every year. Michael Ralsky has done a wonderful job for me and will soon be going over to the Pentagon where we know he will contribute his expertise, gained from working in the Senate for so many years.

Their support has been really terrific, and we appreciate that. I appreciate that Senator FEINSTEIN also thanked Senator INOUE and Senator STEVENS for their work. They do the Department of Defense budgets, and we certainly dovetail with them in our military construction budgets. I cannot think of any two people who are more committed to our strong military than TED STEVENS and DANNY INOUE,

two veterans who have served our country in the military and who would never, ever walk away from our responsibility to take care of our military personnel. They have been so supportive of this military construction effort that Senator FEINSTEIN and I have put together.

I support the bill and urge my colleagues to support it when we vote tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Again, I thank my ranking member. It was great to work with her, and I think she knows that. I think we have a very good bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 4306

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN], for herself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. THOMPSON proposes an amendment numbered 4306.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. Of the amount appropriated in this Act under the heading "Military Construction, Army", \$8,000,000 may be provided for a parking garage at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, District of Columbia.

SEC. Of the amount appropriated in this Act under the heading "Military Construction, Army", \$3,000,000 may be provided for a Anechoic Chamber at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

SEC. Of the amount appropriated in this Act under the heading "Military Construction, Air Force", \$7,500,000 may be provided for a control tower at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

SEC. Of the amount appropriated in this Act under the heading "Military Construction, Army National Guard", \$9,000,000 may be provided for a Joint Readiness Center at Eugene, Oregon.

SEC. Of the amount appropriated in this Act under the heading "Military Construction, Air National Guard", \$8,400,000 may be provided for a Composite Maintenance Complex, Phase II in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, Senator HUTCHISON and I authored this amendment on behalf of Senators THURMOND, DOMENICI, BINGAMAN, BIDEN, CARPER, WYDEN, GORDON SMITH, FRIST, and THOMPSON. The amendment would include in the military construction bill five projects that were authorized by the Senate during consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act. These projects include a parking garage at Walter Reed Medical Center in the District of Columbia; an Anechoic testing chamber at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico; a

control tower at Dover Air Force base in Delaware; a Joint Readiness Center at Eugene, OR; and a composite maintenance complex in Nashville, TN.

All of these projects have been authorized. They meet all the requirements of the military construction program, and I urge my colleagues to adopt the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment?

If not, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 4306.

The amendment (No. 4306) was agreed to.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to thank Senator FEINSTEIN for her stewardship of the Military Construction Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2003. Her work on this bill will provide billions of dollars in funding to support our Nation's defense efforts, and I support those efforts wholeheartedly.

My colleague from New York, Senator CLINTON, and I would like to take a moment to engage our colleague in a colloquy.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I thank my colleague for his kind words and would be happy to engage in a colloquy with the Senators from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. Last month, Senator CLINTON and I had the special honor of joining in the welcome-home celebration of the men and women of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum. From fighting in Afghanistan to peacekeeping in Kosovo, our troops help make the world safe for people who cherish freedom. These soldiers were prepared for whatever obstacles came their way in Afghanistan precisely because of the training they received at Fort Drum. As we look to transform our nation's military to fit the needs of 21st century warfare, Fort Drum-trained soldiers are exactly the kind of troops we need.

Mr. CLINTON. In April, I had the privilege of visiting the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where other soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division were recuperating from wounds suffered in battle in Afghanistan. I know that all American feel the same pride for these distinguished service men and women as Senator SCHUMER and myself. It is no coincidence that when the initial troops were called into Afghanistan, soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division were among the first ones in. As one of the most frequently deployed missions in the U.S. Army, these flexible, mobile forces are a powerful weapon.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it is my understanding that contained in the House version of the Military Construction Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2003 is an additional \$18.3 million in military construction funding that will support the construction of two

projects vital to the continued functioning of Fort Drum, located in upstate New York.

Mrs. CLINTON. The first of the two projects is a parallel taxiway at Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield, WSAAF at Fort Drum. This project will construct a new concrete taxiway parallel to the main runway to support operations at the airfield. The taxiway is required to enhance the capability, safety, and efficiency in the deployment of troops and equipment for the 10th Mountain Division, LI, and other fully functional units ready for combat from the installation. Fort Drum has experienced an increase in the number of air training missions and deployment operations in support of training, contingency, and NATO support missions. This construction project is necessary to keep the fort operating.

Mr. SCHUMER. The second project is the one-plus-one DIVARTY barracks expansion. This project consists of construction of a two-story barracks building with a 100-room unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing facility to include a built-in soldier community building. The project will upgrade the current barracks to meet the new Department of Defense enlisted personnel housing standards. The project is required to support the DIVARTY housing facilities for personnel in grades E1 through E6 to meet the one-plus standard. My colleague and I feel that this project is vital to New York as well as a number of States in the Northeast.

Mrs. CLINTON. Now more than ever, we must remain resolute in our defense of America's values, interests and security. Our safety at home, as well as abroad rests on the strength of our military response, and Fort Drum is an absolutely essential component. Senator SCHUMER and I plan to work with my colleagues to ensure that Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division continue to play a large role in defending our Nation.

Mr. SCHUMER. We are aware that there are many priorities that the Senate is considering, but would just like to bring to our distinguished colleague's attention that these projects would not be included in the Senate Bill because they were not authorized in accordance with Senate authorization criteria. This same criteria is not applicable in the House. We trust that the chairman looks favorably upon these construction projects and is willing to take the steps necessary to support the House's appropriation allocation.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I appreciate the remarks of the Senators of New York and assure them that we will do our best to retain these projects in conference.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise to offer for the RECORD the Budget Committee's official scoring for S. 2709, the Military Construction Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2003.

The Senate bill provides \$10.622 billion in discretionary budget authority,

all classified as defense spending, which will result in new outlays in 2003 of \$2.771 billion. When outlays from prior-year budget authority are taken into account, discretionary outlays for the Senate bill total \$10.12 billion in 2003.

Despite the bipartisan support of 59 Senators, the Senate was blocked on procedural grounds last month from approving a 302(a) allocation for the Appropriations Committee. Consequently, the Appropriations Committee voted 20-0 on June 27 to adopt a set of non-binding sub-allocations for its 13 subcommittees totaling \$768.1 billion in budget authority and \$793.1 billion in outlays. While the committee's subcommittee's allocations are consistent with both the amendment supported by 59 Senators last month and with the President's request for total discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2003, they are not enforceable under either Senate budget rules or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act.

For the Military Construction subcommittee, the full committee allocated \$10.622 billion in budget authority and \$10.122 billion in total outlays for 2003. The bill reported by the full committee on June 27 is fully consistent with that allocation. In addition, S. 2709 does not include any emergency designations or advance appropriations.

I ask unanimous consent that a table displaying the budget committee scoring of this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2709, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2003

(Spending comparisons—Senate-reported bill (in millions of dollars))

	Defense	Mandatory	Total
Senate-reported bill:			
Budget Authority	10,622	.....	10,622
Outlays	10,120	.....	10,120
Senate committee allocation: ¹			
Budget Authority	10,622	.....	10,622
Outlays	10,122	.....	10,122
House-passed: ²			
Budget Authority	10,083	.....	10,083
Outlays	10,052	.....	10,052
President's request: ³			
Budget Authority	9,663	.....	9,663
Outlays	9,996	.....	9,996
SENATE-REPORTED BILL COMPARED TO:			
Senate committee allocation: ¹			
Budget Authority .....	.....	.....	.....
Outlays	(2)	.....	(2)
House-passed:			
Budget Authority	539	.....	539
Outlays	68	.....	68
President's request:			
Budget Authority	959	.....	959
Outlays	124	.....	124

¹ The Senate has not adopted a 302(a) allocation for the Appropriations Committee. The committee has set non-enforceable sub-allocations to its 13 subcommittees. The table compares the committee-reported bill with the committee's allocation to the Military Construction Subcommittee for informational purposes only.

² The cost of the House-reported bill does not include \$6 million in 2003 outlays estimated by CBO to occur as a result of the House-passed 2002 supplemental. Outlays from the 2002 supplemental will be added after completion of the conference on that bill.

³ The President requested total discretionary budget authority for 2003 of \$768.1 billion, including a proposal to change how the budget records the accrual cost of future pension and health retiree benefits earned by current federal employees. Because the Congress has not acted on that proposal, for comparability, the numbers of the table exclude the effects of the President's accrual proposal.

Notes: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with scorekeeping conventions. Prepared by SBC Majority Staff, 7-16-01.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I believe that completes the military construction bill.

Mr. President, I yield back all my time. It is my understanding the vote will be tomorrow at 10:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the substitute amendment, as amended, is agreed to.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

A BUDGET DEFICIT REALITY CHECK

Mr. VOINOVICH. I rise today to discuss an issue that I have been known to have some thoughts about from time to time, and that is our Nation's fiscal situation and this body's approach to its budget responsibilities, something the President and I have talked about on many occasions.

The country's finances are in dire condition. We face a sea of red ink as far as the eye can see, and perhaps the worst thing about it is that few people in this body appear to recognize or acknowledge how bad that predicament is. The Federal Government is running a deficit and will for the foreseeable future, when just last year we had an on-budget surplus. Despite this, Congress continues to spend money like drunken sailors, refusing to prioritize and make the tough choices necessary to stop the bleeding and get us back on track.

In the rush to spend, we are not asking the basic question: Is this the best use of our limited funds at this point in time?

I want to emphasize to my colleagues how critical our budget situation has become. Over the past year, the budget outlook has worsened dramatically. Last year, the Congressional Budget Office predicted a unified budget surplus of \$313 billion. That is for fiscal year 2002. That means the Social Security surplus and the on-budget surplus together equals \$313 billion. We all thought everything was going great, and I was extremely pleased because Congress believed that we might be able to once again use the entire Social Security surplus to reduce the national debt, after all, we did it in 1999 and 2000. As a matter of fact, during that period of time we reduced the national

debt \$365 billion, the first time that had happened in almost 30 years. Unfortunately, it is not turning out that way. Instead of reducing the debt, we are going to add to it. Seven months ago CBO released budget projections that showed the Federal Government is in much worse fiscal condition than we all thought. These new projections show that the Federal Government will spend the entire Social Security surplus in both the current fiscal year and in fiscal year 2003.

Today, our fiscal condition continues to deteriorate. Figures from the Senate Budget Committee show that we will likely suffer a budget deficit of \$152 billion this year. That means that this year we will borrow and spend the entire \$157 billion Social Security surplus and on top of that we are going to have to borrow another \$152 billion through the issuance of new debt. Put another way, the Federal Government will borrow a total of \$310 billion this year. This is new debt on top of the staggering \$6 trillion national debt we already owe.

It is no wonder that our constituents have such a hard time grasping the magnitude of the national debt when it is counted in unfathomable terms like trillions of dollars.

Unfortunately, next year it gets even worse. For fiscal year 2003, which begins October 1, if we maintain our current course of spending we will borrow and spend the entire \$176 billion Social Security surplus and issue \$194 billion in debt on top of that. Already, next year's budget deficit totals \$370 billion, and that is before any supplemental spending, which we all know is inevitable.

If anyone believes these discouraging numbers can be turned around by a growing economy, I think they ought to understand that these projections for 2003 are based on a healthy inflation-adjusted economic growth rate of 3.4 percent.

I would like to draw everyone's eyes to this chart that I am talking about for fiscal year 2002 and fiscal year 2003. This year, fiscal year 2002, we were projected to have a \$313 billion surplus, but instead we are going to take the Social Security surplus that the President and I talked about using to pay down debt and spend that to operate the government. Then on top of that we are going to borrow another \$152 billion. So we are going to borrow nearly \$310 billion.

Next year, the Social Security surplus will be \$175 billion. Instead of using that money to pay down debt, we are going to spend it to run the Government, and then we are going to add another almost \$200 billion of additional debt.

When people come to see me in my office and want something from the Federal Government, I ask the question of them: Is it so worthwhile that we should borrow the money? Does it justify spending the Social Security surplus or causing the Treasury to issue new debt?